

STARTLING 'N SHOCKING

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WEIRD

tales

TERROR FROM
THE HELL BELOW
IN

the Spooks

IT ROSE FROM THE

GRAVEYARD

SCREAMING!

AN EXPLOSION
OF LOATHSOME
HORROR

**the
DOOM
SEAT**



plus
THE AWESOME
Evil One
MONSTERS
LOTTERY OF
HORROR





WEIRD



DECEMBER 1979

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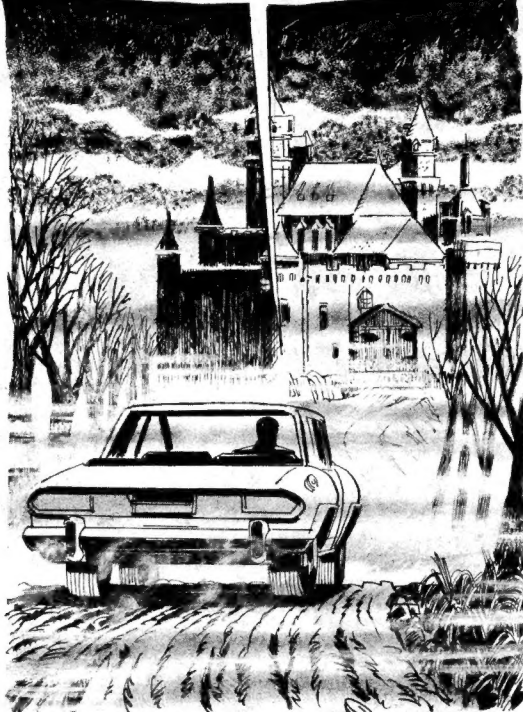
THE EVIL ONE

YOU'VE READ STRANGE STORIES ABOUT *DRAGONS* AND SCOFFED! BUT DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK THAT DRAGONS, THE SHARP TALONED BEASTS OF THE UNKNOWN MUST HAVE ACTUALLY EXISTED IN ANCIENT TIMES WHEN ARMORED KNIGHTS SAT AT KING ARTHUR'S TABLE ... THEN READ ON FOR AN ACCOUNT OF THIS EERIE TALE DESIGNED TO SHOCK YOU OUT OF YOUR SKIN!

MARCHIONNE

ON THE GLOOMY, MIST-SHROUDED MOORS NEAR THE TOWN OF CAMELFORD, ENGLAND...

THERE IT IS... **LACHAN CASTLE!** IT'S CERTAINLY ANCIENT AND FORBIDDING ENOUGH TO CONTAIN THE SECRET I'M SEEKING!



MY FATHER THE BARON IS DEAD... WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?

MY NAME IS GEORGE BAINES, MISS LACHAN... AND I'D LIKE YOUR PERMISSION TO EXAMINE YOUR FAMILY ARCHIVES AND RECORDS! YOU SEE I'M A RESEARCH WRITER WORKING ON AN ANCIENT HISTORY PROJECT! FRANKLY I BELIEVE THAT THIS CASTLE HOLDS MANY SECRETS ABOUT THOSE OLDEN DAYS!

GRRRR!

MY PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS INDICATE THAT CAMELFORD IS THE LOCATION OF THE ANCIENT TOWN OF CAMELOT! INCIDENTALLY THE FAMOUS ENCHANTRESS KNOWN AS VIVIEN, THE LADY OF THE LAKE, IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE HAD HER CASTLE NEARBY!

WHY THAT'S ODD... MY NAME IS VIVIEN! IN EVERY GENERATION A DAUGHTER HAS BEEN GIVEN THAT NAME!



THEN MY HUNCH MUST BE RIGHT!

THE FAMILY ARCHIVES ARE KEPT IN A LOCKED VAULT... THEY'VE BEEN UNTOUCHED FOR GENERATIONS, BUT I'LL OPEN THE VAULT FOR YOU!

AFTER DAYS OF EXAMINING THE ANCIENT RECORDS...

I... I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO ADMIT DEFEAT! THERE ARE GAPS IN THESE RECORDS, AS IF SOMEONE WANTED TO HIDE A SECRET!

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD! IT'S TIME TO RELAX! COME, LET'S TAKE A WALK, -IT'LL DO YOU GOOD!



HE'LL BE LEAVING NOW... AND I DON'T WANT HIM TO GO! OH, IF ONLY I HAD THE COURAGE TO MAKE HIM STAY HERE!

STRANGE... I HAVE AN OVERPOWERING IMPULSE TO KISS HER!

VIVIEN... DARLING!



TELL ME, IS IT AN AMERICAN HABIT FOR A MAN TO KISS A GIRL SO SOON AFTER MEETING HER?

ONLY IF HE'S FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER! AND THERE'S ANOTHER AMERICAN HABIT! THE CARVING OF THE INITIALS OF SWEETHEARTS ON A TREE!

NO, GEORGE... **DON'T!** THERE'S AN OLD FAMILY SUPERSTITION THAT NO ONE IS SUPPOSE TO CUT IT DOWN OR LAY A BLADE ON IT!

NONSENSE!

SAY, THE BLADE MUST HAVE STRUCK METAL EMBEDDED UNDER THE BARK. I THINK I'LL PRY OFF THE BARK AND SEE WHAT'S THERE!

CLANK!

WHY, THERE'S A METAL PLATE WITH SOME PECULIAR WRITING ON IT!

YES... **CELTIC** WRITING ... LET ME SEE IF I CAN TRANSLATE IT!

LET ME CHECK MY BOOK ON ANCIENT CELTIC!

IT'S AN ODD LANGUAGE! LET'S SEE **MERDDIN NAGAST AGENOR-IDRIS KINA - BALOR ALUKAH -**

SUDDENLY...

I FOUND IT! **MERDDIN** IS THE ANCIENT N NAME FOR **MERLIN**... THE WIZZARD OF EVIL!

G... GEORGE ...L... LOOK!

FANTASTIC! HE LOOKS LIKE THE OLD PRINTS I'VE SEEN OF MERLIN!

I REMEMBER NOW... THE
ANCIENT LEGENDS SAID
YOU WERE IMPRISONED IN
AN OAK TREE BY **VIVIEN
THE LADY OF THE LAKE!**
AND YOU WERE RELEASED
WHEN **THIS** VIVIEN READ
OFF THE SPELL!

AN
AYE, AND FOR
THAT YE SHALL
HAVE ANYTHING
YOU NAME...
ANYTHING!

BUT YOU, VIVIEN
... YE WILL DIE A
HORRIBLE DEATH!
YOU ARE THE
DESCENDANT OF
THE DECEITFUL
ENCHANTRESS
THAT TRICKED ME
INTO REVEALING
MY MAGIC SPELLS
... BUT NOW YOU
WILL FEEL THE FURY
OF MY VENGEANCE!
... AND IT WILL BE
A BLOOD-FEAST!



YE'LL BE TORN APART, DEVOUR'ED
BY THE MOST FIENDISH BEASTS
IN CREATION... **MY DRAGONS!**
IT IS WITHIN MY POWER TO
SUMMON THEM INTO THIS WORLD!
WATCH!

MOGH-
BUOTH!

YAAAH-H-H!
THAT THING IS REAL



HERE, MOGH-
BUOTH! YE CAN
FEED WELL ...
**THERE
YOUR PREY!**

NO...
NO!

GRW



WAIT, O MIGHTY MERLIN!
LET YOUR REVENGE WAIT...
THERE ARE MORE
IMPORTANT MATTERS
FOR YOU TO ATTEND TO!

I WILL HEED YOU... BUT
ONLY BECAUSE YOU ARE
RESPONSIBLE FOR FREEING
ME! BUT IF THIS IS A TRICK,
YOU TOO **SHALL DIE!**



**BE GONE MOGH-
BUOTH! ...NOW
TELL ME, WHAT
MATTERS DID YOU
SPEAK OF?**

**THE WORLD HAS
CHANGED SINCE YOU
WERE A SORCERER
IN KING ARTHUR'S TIME
BUT NOW THERE LIVES
A MAGICIAN WITH EVEN
GREATER POWERS
THAN YOURS, MERLIN!**

**THIS MAGICIAN DWELLS IN THE
LAND OF VOLGA AND THE URALS!
AND HE IS PLOTTING TO TAKE
OVER THE ENTIRE WORLD, INCLUD-
ING ENGLAND! ONE OF YOU
MUST CONQUER THE OTHER!**

**YOU SHOULD
COMBAT THE RED
MAGICIAN *NOW*
WITH ALL THE FORCES
AT YOUR COMMAND,
MERLIN ... BEFORE
HE LEARNS THAT YOU
HAVE BEEN RELEASED
AND TAKE STEPS
TO DESTROY YOU!**

**GEORGE
HOW COULD
YOU ... ?**

**SILENCE! WHAT
HE SAYS IS OF
INTEREST TO ME!**

**NOW, I WILL ATTACK THE
RED MAGICIAN WHO CLAIMS
TO BE THE GREATEST
WIZARD OF EVIL! I WILL
SEND THE FORCES OF THE
NETHER WORLD AGAINST
HIM! RISE UP MOGH-
BUOTH ... COME, GUR-
DRAOBH ... LOTH ...**

**BEGONE SORCERESS
... REMAIN IN THE
DUNGEON OF YOUR
CASTLE UNTIL I HAVE
DISPOSED OF THE RED
MAGICIAN!**

**OH-
HHH!**

**GO ... GO TO THE LAND
OF THE URALS AND VOLGA
... FALL UPON THE ARMY
OF THE RED KNIGHT!**

BUT AT AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN
EMPLACEMENT OUTSIDE CAMELFORD...

WHA... IT'S A
BLOOMIN'
INVASION... MAYBE
FROM MARS!
SHOOT THEM DOWN,
WHATEVER THEY
ARE!

LOOK... THEY
DISAPPEAR WHEN
THEY'RE HIT!
KEEP FIRING!

BAROOOMM!

MY DRAGONS... THEY'VE
BEEN SLAIN!

KEEP SENDING UP
YOUR DRAGONS AND
HOPE THAT **SOME** OF
THEM GET THROUGH!

YOU ARE RIGHT! **RISE
UP, TORLHUKAR...
ROGDESHTU...**

THAT'LL KEEP HIM
BUSY FOR AWHILE
... NOW TO GET TO
THE CASTLE AND
FREE VIVIEN!

WOOOM!
WOOOomm!

THEY'RE COMIN'
UP FASTER THAN
WE CAN KNOCK 'EM
DOWN COLNEL

A DOZEN
SQUADRONS OF
FIGHTER PLANES
ARE ON THE
WAY!

A STRANGE BATTLE ENSUES - ANCIENT
DRAGONS AGAINST MODERN AIRCRAFT!

RATATATA!!

AT BRITISH SOUTHWEST
DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS
IN CORNWALL...

OUR PLANES REPORT
THE BEASTS KEEP
COMING UP FROM
THE VICINITY OF
LACHAN CASTLE!
WE'LL BOMB THE
PLACE IF NECESSARY!

YOU HEARD ME!
KEEP ATTACKING!
...THOSE ARE YOUR
ORDERS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE DUNGEON AT LACHAN CASTLE...

GEORGE... YOU DIDN'T
MEAN WHAT YOU SAID TO
MERLIN!

OF COURSE NOT,
DARLING! BUT
WE'VE GOT TO
WORK FAST...
PERHAPS YOU CAN
IMPRISON
MERLIN IN THE
TREE, THE WAY
LADY OF THE
LAKE DID
CENTURIES
AGO!

AS SOON AS I
KAYO HIM, GRAB
THE SORCERER'S STAFF
...AND RECITE THE
SPELL **BACKWARDS**
...BECAUSE THAT'S
HOW HE WAS
IMPRISONED IN THE
FIRST PLACE!

I'M EXHAUSTING
THE SUPPLY OF
DRAGONS...
I WILL HAVE TO
SUMMON UP
THE DREAD
BELIAL HIM-
SELF... EVEN
THOUGH HE
MAY DESTROY
THE **ENTIRE**
WORLD!

BUT BEFORE MERLIN
CAN UTTER THE SATANIC
CHANT...

CRACK!

I'LL TELL HIM
TO THE TREE
BEFORE YOU
RECITE THE
SPELL! WE'LL
HAVE TO HURRY
BEFORE HE
COMES TO!

I'LL MEMORIZE
THE SPELL
FIRST... BE
CAUSE HIS
BODY WILL
CONCEAL IT
AGAINST
THE TREE!

CALLING BOMBER
COMMAND... THE
BEASTS HAVE
STOP COMING UP
...ARE WE STILL
TO DROP OUR
BOMBS!

NO... ONLY DROP THEM IF THE
MONSTERS SHOW UP!
WE'LL SEND TROOPS OUT TO
INVESTIGATE!



HE'S BEGIN-
ING TO STIR
HURRY UP
WITH THAT
SPELL!

MAXULA
ROLAB-ANIK
SIRDI-RONEGA
TSAGAN
NIDDEM!



IT WORKED... HE'S AS POWER-
LESS AS WHEN YOUR ANCESTER
FIRST CAST THE SPELL OVER
HIM... AND HE'S GOING TO
STAY THAT WAY!

LATER...

... AND THAT'S ALL THERE WAS TO IT,
GENERAL! MERLIN WILL NEVER
ESCAPE AGAIN. BECAUSE VIVIEN
WILL NEVER "READ-OFF" THE MAGIC
SPELL AGAIN!



AND THIS IS
HIS STAFF,
EH? WE'LL
KEEP IT
GUARDED...
NEVER
KNOW WHEN
IT WILL
COME IN
HANDY!

MEANWHILE, MISS LACHAN, I WANT TO
THANK YOU AND MR. BAINES FOR YOUR
SUPPORT IN DESTROYING THE CREATURE
OF EVIL. NO
TELLING WHAT
WOULD HAVE
HAPPENED
TO THE
WORLD,
HAD HE
ESCAPED!



WELL GENERAL, MISS LACHAN AND
I ARE GOING TO BE MARRIED...
SO THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL
CARRY ON THE LINE OF THE
LADY OF THE LAKE! THAT'S
THE ONLY WAY WE CAN BE
SURE THAT THE SECRET -
WILL NEVER GET INTO
THE WRONG HANDS!

FINE!



THE END

THE Monster

DEEP IN THE PRIMEVAL JUNGLE, A TERRIFIED GIRL'S FATE DEPENDED ON THE RAGING CONFLICT IN THE HEART OF A CREATURE WHO WAS HER CAPTOR... FOR THE CREATURE HAD THE HEART OF A BEAST, BUT THE BRAINS OF A MAN!



IN A TINY LABORATORY, THREE PEOPLE WAIT INTENSELY AS THE CLOCK TICKS AWAY IN THE JUNGLE NIGHT...

HAVE I ACHIEVED THE IMPOSSIBLE? HAVE I TRANSPLANTED THE BRAIN OF A MAN INTO THE BODY OF A BEAST? SOON WE SHALL KNOW!

...AND YOU, MY FORMER ASSISTANT... TOO BAD I HAD TO KILL YOU, BUT YOURS WAS THE PERFECT YOUNG BRAIN FOR THIS EXPERIMENT!

DOCTOR... THIS THING IS VERY UNCOMFORTABLE!



... I THINK I'LL
TAKE IT OFF, IF
YOU DON'T
MIND!

WHA--!! I'VE DONE
IT! JOHN, CAROL...
I'VE DONE IT!

YES, DOCTOR, YOU HAVE... YOU'VE
TAKEN THE BRAIN OF PETER
GARGAN AND BROUGHT IT TO
LIFE IN THIS HAIRY BODY! BUT
I KNOW HOW YOU DID IT!
YOU MURDERED ME, AND
JOHN AND CAROL HELPED
YOU!

MURDERED? DOCTOR, YOU
SAID GARGAN
HAD AN
ACCIDENT!

HOWEVER, DOCTOR, YOU'VE
GIVEN ME SUPERHUMAN
STRENGTH... AND REMOVED
ME FROM THE RESTRICTIONS
OF HUMAN JUSTICE AND
BEHAVIOR!

WHAT... DO
YOU MEAN,
GARGAN?

TWO THINGS I'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO DO, MARK...
KILL YOU AND TAKE CAROL
FOR MY OWN! I'VE
ALWAYS WANTED
YOU, CAROL...

NO,
JOHN...

STAND
BACK,
GARGAN!



DON'T GET IN MY WAY,
JOHN, I'VE NOTHING
AGAINST YOU... IT'S
MARK I WANT!

NO, GARGAN! I...
I CREATED YOU!
I MADE YOU A
LIVING
WONDER...

NO MARK!
YOU MADE ME
A MONSTER!

NO!
NO!



... AND NOW I'M
MAKING YOU
A DEAD ONE!

CAROL... YOU'RE COMING WITH
ME! WITH THE STRENGTH OF A
GORILLA AND THE BRAIN OF A
MAN, I SHALL BE KING OF
THE ENTIRE JUNGLE, AND
YOU WILL BE MY QUEEN!

PLEASE
DON'T FORCE
ME TO GO,
PLEASE...

MINUTES
LATER...

BWANA,
BWANA!



... WE
MUST
FOLLOW
THEM,
MOGU!

I DO NOT SAVVY,
BWANA... BUT IF IT IS THE
GREAT HAIRY MEN YOU
SEEK, I KNOW WHERE!
IT IS THE NIGHT OF THE
EVIL MOON! THEY WILL
BE DANCING IN THE
DEEP FOREST...

GOOD BOY,
MOGU! I'LL
NEED A
RIFLE... AND
SOME
DYNAMITE!

MOGU
GO
WITH
YOU!

AS MOGU SAID, THE GORILLAS
ARE LEAPING AND STAMP-
ING TO THEIR PRIMITIVE
RHYTHMS DEEP IN THE
FOREST...



And MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...

THE DRUMS! I MAY HAVE A HUMAN
BRAIN, BUT THE DRUMS SOUND IN MY
VERY BLOOD! I MUST GO TO THEM!
I'LL CHALLENGE THE LEADER AND
KILL HIM! I'LL BE LEADER!

I-I
CAN'T GO
ON, GARGAN!
LET ME GO
BACK!

YOU'LL NOT GO
BACK! I'LL CARRY
YOU AND DON'T
MAKE A SOUND!

OHhh!



AND A MOMENT LATER, THE BIG
DRUM IS STILL!



THE GREAT BULL LEADER OF
THE TRIBE STEPS FORWARD...



THAT'S THE LEADER!
NOW I'LL JUST...

...MEET HIS
CHARGE WITH
THE BRUTE
STRENGTH OF
A BEAST...



BLAM!



...AND KILL HIM
WITH THE BRAIN AND
WEAPON OF A MAN!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT...

AND NOW, I
AM LEADER!
BOW DOWN
BEFORE ME,
YOU BEASTS!

NOW'S THE TIME, MOGU!
LIGHT THE FUSE
FOR ME!



GOT TO THROW IT
HIGH... CAN'T RISK
HURTING CAROL!



LOOK, BWANA!
THEY RUN
AWAY! ALL BUT
THE ONE WE
SEEK!

THAT'S JUST
WHAT I
EXPECTED,
MOGU!





THE DEADLY CORPSE



ANDREW GRANGER WAS ONE WEEK DEAD...
BUT NOTHING COULD KEEP HIM LYING IN HIS
GRAVE... NOTHING EXCEPT A BOOK THAT
CONTAINED THE FEARFUL SECRET OF...
RAISING THE DEAD!

LATE ONE AUTUMN DAY, CHARLES
VENABLE TURNED UP THE PUDDLE-
FILLED DRIVEWAY OF A NEGLECTED
ESTATE... THE HOME OF CARL GRANGER!



EVERY
THING
ABOUT THE
PLACE
LOOKED
DEAD!
THE
GROUNDS,
THE
MANSION,
THE
STAINED
MARBLE
TERRACE,
EVERYTHING!

...THEY'VE LET EVERYTHING
GO TO RUIN... WHY?



CHARLES VENABLE SOON FOUND SOMETHING HERE THAT REVOLTED HIM! SOMETHING ABNORMALLY EVIL...

IT EVEN SMELLS BAD! I OUGHT TO TURN AROUND AND GO BACK!

KNOCK KNOCK

BUT-- CHARLES VENABLE KNOCKED ON THE THICK DOOR AND WAS ADMITTED!

YOU MUST BE MY NEW SECRETARY! COME IN! PLEASE EXCUSE THE WAY THIS PLACE LOOKS!

RATHER NEGLECTED I'D SAY!

WHAT DOES IT MATTER? THE THINGS OF THE MATERIAL WORLD DO NOT COUNT! LET IT ROT! THIS WAY, PLEASE!

TELL ME, MR. VENABLE, ARE YOU AFRAID OF DEATH? OF THE DYING? OF THE DEAD?

N-NO MORE THAN THE NEXT MAN! BUT WHAT HAS THAT TO DO AS MY JOB AS A SECRETARY?

YOU'LL SEE! YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR MANY STRANGE THINGS! THIS WAY, PLEASE... TO MY STUDY!

Y-YOUR STUDY? W-WHAT ARE THOSE?

CORPSES! I USE DEAD MEN IN MY RESEARCH! DID THE AGENCY TELL YOU I NEED A MAN WHO CAN READ SANSKRIT?

I MUST HAVE CERTAIN PASSAGES TRANSLATED TO COMPLETE MY STUDIES! HERE... PLEASE TRANSLATE FROM THIS BOOK!

WHY, T-THIS BOOK... IT... IT'S ABOUT BRINGING THE DEAD BACK TO LIFE!

AND VICE VERSA! PLEASE READ ALOUD!

"SOME SAY THE DEAD CANNOT RETURN! THAT WHEN THEY ARE ABROAD IN THE LAND THEY CANNOT BE SENT BACK TO THEIR GRAVES! THIS IS FALSE! WE KNOW A MAGIC SAYING THAT CAN MAKE THE DEAD LIE STILL!"

I MUST HAVE THAT FORMULA!

I **MUST** HAVE IT, YOU HEAR? IT'S SOMEWHERE IN THIS BOOK!

WHY DO YOU NEED A MAGIC FORMULA FOR RETURNING THE DEAD TO THEIR GRAVES?



THERE! YOU HEAR IT? THAT SLITHERING SOUND ALONG THE HALLWAY?

YES! WHAT IS IT?

SSSSSSSS



I HEAR IT EVERY NIGHT! I'M AFRAID TO LOOK!

I'LL OPEN THE DOOR AND SEE WHAT IT IS!

SSSSSHHHH



NO! NOT YET! NOT UNTIL I HAVE THAT MAGIC FORMULA!

BUT WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO FIND OUT THERE?

I-I DON'T KNOW! BUT IF YOU FIND THE FORMULA... THEN I CAN OPEN THE DOOR! THEN I CAN DARE FACE WHATEVER IT IS!

THAT'S WHY YOU **MUST** FIND THAT PASSAGE! ONLY THAT MAGIC FORMULA CAN SAVE ME NOW! SAY YOU WILL FIND IT, VENERABLE! SAY IT!

I'LL TRY, SIR!



And so, VENABLE TOOK THE JOB! HE BEGAN TO READ DAY AND NIGHT! HE DID NOTHING BUT TRANSLATE! GRANGER REFUSED TO LET HIM REST!

YOU **MUST** GO ON! YOU MUST FIND THAT MAGIC PHRASE SOMEWHERE IN THE BOOK!

THE PRINT IS SO FINE! THE LANGUAGE IS SO DIFFICULT!

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? MY LIFE'S AT STAKE! I... THE SOUND! IT'S BACK AGAIN!

WHY DON'T WE SEE WHAT IT IS? I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK!

NO! NO! YOU CAN'T LET IT INTO THE ROOM! YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP TRANSLATING!

BUT HOW CAN I WITH THAT THING CRAWLING AROUND?

NOW IT'S POUNDING ON THE DOOR!

GO AWAY! GO AWAY! I TELL YOU! LEAVE ME ALONE!

THE POUNDING IS LOUDER! STRONGER! VENABLE, PLEASE **HELP ME!**



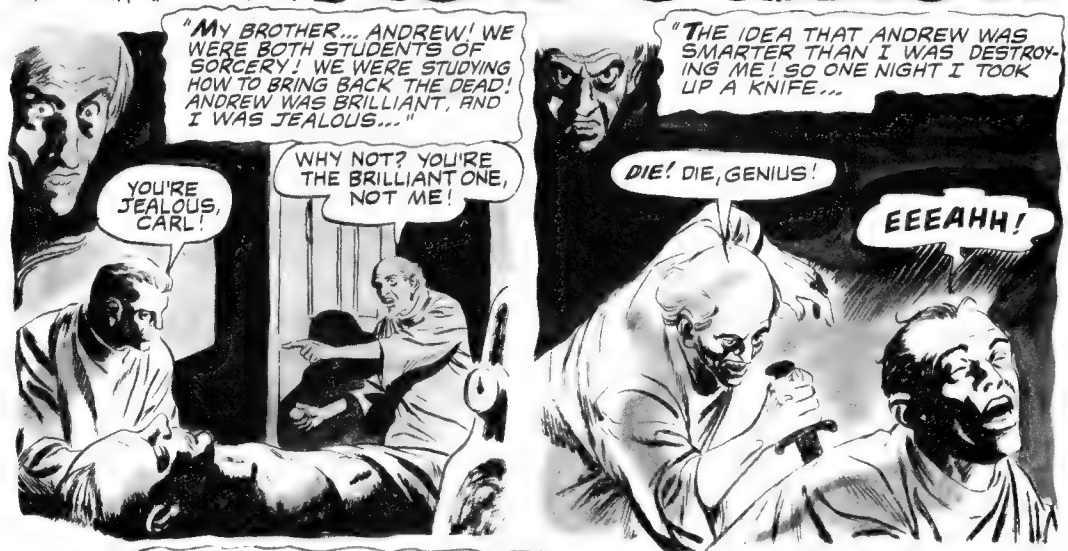
BUT THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO EXCEPT WAIT FOR THE POUNDING TO STOP... YET, THE NEXT NIGHT THE POUNDING GREW BOLDER AND WOKE VENABLE... HE GRASPED THE SWORD FROM THE KNIGHT AND RACED INTO THE HALL...

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

GET AWAY FROM HERE! GO... OR I'LL KILL YOU!

YEE!!!

WHAM
WHACK



AS VENABLE LEFT THE STUDY,
HE FROZE IN HIS TRACKS!

THE CORPSE, GRANGER!
LOCK YOUR DOOR!

IT WOULDN'T
DO ANY GOOD!
YOU'VE GOT
TO FIND THAT
FORMULA!

ALL
RIGHT!
GIVE
ME
THE
BOOK!

THE DOOR IS LOCKED!
HE CAN'T GET IN!
HURRY, VENABLE...
READ!



CRACK!

HE'S
BREAKING
THROUGH!

YOU MURDERING WRETCH!
YOU LOST YOUR HEAD
LAST WEEK! NOW
YOU'LL LOSE IT
PERMANENTLY!

NO! STAY
AWAY!
VENABLE,
HELP ME!

IT'S TOO
LATE NOW!
I'LL GET THE
POLICE!



NOTHING WILL HELP!
YOU'RE DOOMED,
CARL, DOOMED!

EEI!

WHEN
THE
POLICE
CAME
THEY FOUND
ONE BODY
DECAPITATED!
THE OTHER
LAY NEARBY
WITH A
SURGICAL
SAW IN
ITS CLAMMY
HAND...

ONE CORPSE
IS A WEEK
OLDER THAN
THE OTHER!
BUT HOW COME
IT'S GOT AN
ARM AROUND
THE FRESH
STIFF?

CORONER,
WHAT'S THE
ANSWER?

THE ANSWER
IS A MAGIC
FORMULA! IT'S
IN THIS BOOK
IF YOU CAN
FIND IT!



JEFFREY WARING WAS A MURDERER!...
AND THOUGHT HIS SECRET WAS SAFE!
THEN THE TERRIFYING NIGHTS BEGAN
AND HE FOUND HIMSELF HOUNDED TO
THE BRINK OF MADNESS BY THE DREAD
VOICE FROM.....

THE TOMB OF HATE



CYNTHIA WARING, A VICTIM OF PARALYSIS SHOWS
SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT..

I'M VERY HOPEFUL, MR.
WARING. SOON YOUR
SISTER MAY BE ABLE TO
MOVE AND SPEAK!

THAT'S
MARVELOUS,
DR. KIRK!

BUT WHAT JEFFREY WARING THINKS IS QUITE DIFFERENT...

IF THE OLD FOOL CURES HER, I'VE LOST EVERYTHING. DAD LEFT MILLIONS TO HER - SHE MUST DIE - SHE MUST!



THERE! IT WILL BE OVER IN A MOMENT AND YOU'LL HARDLY FEEL IT! GOODBYE, CYNTHIA, I NEED YOUR MONEY!



BUT CYNTHIA DIES AND TWO DAYS LATER...

SO YOU'RE GOING TO PUT HER IN THE TOMB WITH THE REST OF YOUR FAMILY!



THAT NIGHT...

SO YOU'RE AWAKE, CYNTHIA DEAR. I'M SORRY, I WISH YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO WATCH THIS!



YES, CYNTHIA, IT'S POISON! A KIND IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A TRACE OF! AND YOU CAN'T SCREAM OR MOVE! IT'S TOO EASY!

UHHH-I-YOU-AHHHHH.....

HUH! Y-YOU CAN'T YOU'RE PARALYZED! IT M-MUST BE THE REACTION CAUSED BY THE POISON!



OF COURSE! ALL THE WARINGS LIE THERE! POOR CYNTHIA, SHE HAD SO MUCH TO LIVE FOR!

**THAT NIGHT...
AFTER THE FUNERAL...**

I WAS SURPRISED BY YOUR SISTER'S
DEATH, JEFFREY! I WOULD HAVE
SWORN SHE WAS ON THE WAY
TO RECOVERY!

A TERRIBLE
BLOW, SIR,
BUT IT WAS
THE WILL OF
FATE!

BUT THAT NIGHT JEFFREY WARING CAN'T SLEEP...

I WONDER IF DR. KIRK SUSPECTS ANYTHING?
BUT HOW COULD HE? THAT POISON WAS
VERY RARE - FOOLPROOF!

HE YIELDS TO A STRANGE COMPULSION...

MUST BE MY NERVES, I SUPPOSE!
BUT I MUST KNOW IF CYNTHIA
IS STILL IN HER
COFFIN!

**A CHILL OF TERROR
RACES THROUGH HIM...**

THE C-COFFIN! THE LID IS
OFF! BUT I SAW THEM NAIL
IT DOWN MYSELF!

S-SHE'S STILL HERE
THANK GOODNESS,
BUT HOW DID THE
COFFIN LID
COME OFF?



MY IMAGINATION MUST
BE PLAYING TRICKS! MAY-
BE THEY DIDN'T NAIL
DOWN THE COFFIN!

THERE, DEAR SISTER,
YOU AND YOUR SMILE WON'T
BOTHER ME ANY MORE

*BUT JEFFREY IS WRONG! THE WORM OF FEAR
CRAWLS IN HIS MIND, AND THAT NIGHT...*

THIS TERRIBLE COMPULSION TO SEE CYNTHIA
IN HER COFFIN MUST STOP! AFTER TONIGHT
I'LL LEAVE THIS
PLACE AND TAKE
A LONG TRIP!



EEEE- N-NO! I NAILED
THAT LID DOWN MYSELF LAST
NIGHT! AND SHE'S TRY-
ING TO GET OUT!

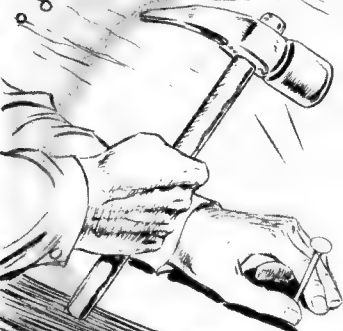
I C-CAN HARDLY BEAR
TO TOUCH HER! SO COLD!
BUT I MUST! IF ONLY SHE
WOULDN'T SMILE
LIKE THAT!



MORE NAILS! BUT THIS TIME I'LL MAKE SURE! I'LL PUT ONE OF THOSE HEAVY TOMBSTONES ON THE COFFIN! THE ONES THAT FATHER ORDERED AND NEVER USED!

THERE, CYNTHIA, LET ME SEE YOU GET OUT NOW! YOU'RE SEALED IN FOREVER!

I'M NOT TAKING ANY MORE CHANCES! I'LL LEAVE NOW! TONIGHT! MAYBE A TRIP TO EUROPE!



MY NERVES ARE SHOT, BUT A LONG REST WILL FIX THAT!

JEFFREY! OH JEFFREY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

CYNTHIA'S VOICE! BUT NO- IT ISN'T POSSIBLE!

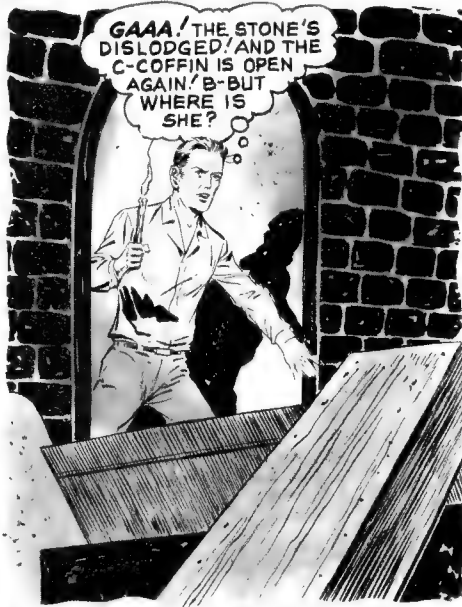


COME, JEFFREY, YOU CAN'T
ESCAPE. COME TO THE TOMB!

IT- IT'S HER VOICE!
COMING FROM
THE TOMB!



Y-YOU'RE...
YOU'RE NOT
DEAD AT ALL!
AAAAAAA-



GAAA! THE STONE'S
DISLODGED! AND THE
C-COFFIN IS OPEN
AGAIN! B-BUT
WHERE IS
SHE?

I'VE GOT TO KNOW!
EITHER CYNTHIA ISN'T
DEAD, OR I'M SEEING
AND HEARING
THINGS I'LL
GO MAD!



CYNTHIA! PLEASE-
STOP SMILING LIKE
THAT! LISTEN TO ME!
I'M SORRY- I DIDN'T
MEAN TO KILL YOU!
PLEASE- PLEASE...



NO USE, JEFFREY! YOUR
SISTER IS REALLY DEAD-
AND WE KNOW YOU
MURDERED HER!

YES, WE'VE
HEARD
ENOUGH!

DR. KIRK!
SO IT WAS
A TRICK!

YES, I ARRANGED THE
RICTUS SARDONICUS, OR
DEATH SMILE ON HER
FACE! I REMOVED THE
NAILS AND STONE! I
IMITATED HER VOICE
AND MOVED THE BODY
WITH A ROPE... AND
I GOT YOU!

NOT YET, YOU
HAVEN'T! I'LL
BEAT YOU
AFTER ALL!

STOP!

BUT JEFFREY SLIPS AND...

NGAAAAAAA-

JUST AS WELL,
DOCTOR! IT'LL
SAVE THE STATE
THE EXPENSE
OF HANGING
HIM!

...AND FITTING, SOMEHOW,
THAT A TOMBSTONE
SHOULD KILL HIM!

THE
END

THE SPOOKS

TWO YOUNG AMERICANS ON A HONEYMOON, VERY MUCH IN LOVE! HARDLY THE SETTING FOR A TALE OF DEATH-AND HORROR? BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT THINGS LURK IN EVERY SHADOW? BEHIND EVERY DOOR? AND WHAT MAN KNOWS WHETHER HE IS BRAVE OR A COWARD UNTIL THAT ONE AWFUL MOMENT WHEN TERROR CREEPS...

THE TIME-1926! JIM AND CYNTHIA LORING ARE HONEY-MOONING IN SPAIN...

BLAST IT! STALLED AGAIN! HOPE I CAN FIX IT!

SUCH A LOVELY SPOT! MILES FROM THE VILLAGE!

AFRAID WE'RE STUCK, CYNTHIA! THE DISTRIBUTOR SEEMS TO BE SHOT!

LOOK, DARLING! THOSE BUILDINGS! MAYBE WE CAN GET HELP THERE! THEY MAY EVEN LET US STAY OVER!

BUT WHEN THEY APPROACH...

IT LOOKS SO
DESERTED!
FALLING TO
RUIN!

AN OLD MONASTERY!
SPAIN IS FULL OF
THEM! WE'LL GET
NO HELP HERE!



Soon...

IT'S SORT
OF FUN NOW,
JIM, WITH THE
FIRE! AN AD-
VENTURE!

I TOLD YOU NOT
TO WORRY!
IN THE
MORNING
I'LL FIND A
GARAGE!

An hour passes...

I'M GLAD CYNTHIA
COULDN'T SEE HOW
FRIGHTENED I AM! SHE
DOESN'T KNOW THAT I'M
A COWARD! SHE MUST
NEVER KNOW!



AT LEAST IT'S SHELTER
OF A SORT! I'LL BUILD A
FIRE AND WE'LL SPEND
THE NIGHT HERE!

IT'S SO
CREEPY!



*CYNTHIA WAKES TO
SUDDEN TERROR...*

HA HA HA
EEEEEEEE

*FROM THE SHADOWS A CIRCLE OF
STEALTHY FIGURES APPROACH...*

HUH!
W-WHO ARE
YOU? STAY
AWAY- GET
BACK!





**IN THE TORTURE CHAMBER A
STRANGE JURY ASSEMBLES...**



MEANTIME...



UGH- UGH-
RATS CRAWLING
ON ME! T-THEY'LL
EAT ME ALIVE!

BUT FATE AND RATS PLAY ODD TRICKS!



THEY'RE GNAWING AT THE
THINGS! MUST LIKE THE
TASTE! M-MAYBE THEY'LL
SET ME FREE!

SURE ENOUGH...



THEY
DID IT!
I'M FREE- FREE!
NOW IF I CAN GET
OUT OF HERE.

I CAN JUST MAKE IT! IT
SEEMS TO LEAD INTO A
TUNNEL! I'LL GET AWAY
FROM THOSE HORRORS!



I'LL GET HELP! NOUSE
TRYING TO FIGHT THOSE
THINGS ALONE! CYNTHIA
WILL UNDERSTAND- I
KNOW SHE WILL!



**SO JIM LORING, COWARD, RUNS
PANTING
THROUGH
THE NIGHT...**



I CAN'T GO BACK THERE
ALONE! THERE MUST BE
SOMEONE WHO WILL HELP
ME! THE POLICE-
ANYBODY!



AS THE FRANTIC MAN NEARS HIS CAR...



YOU, THERE! HELP-HELP!

THIS ONE IS BADLY FRIGHTENED!

AN AMERICAN, IT SEEMS! THIS MUST BE HIS CAR!

LORING GASPS OUT HIS FANTASTIC STORY...

YOU'RE THE POLICE, AREN'T YOU? YOU MUST SAVE MY WIFE!

WE ARE THE POLICE, SEÑOR, BUT...

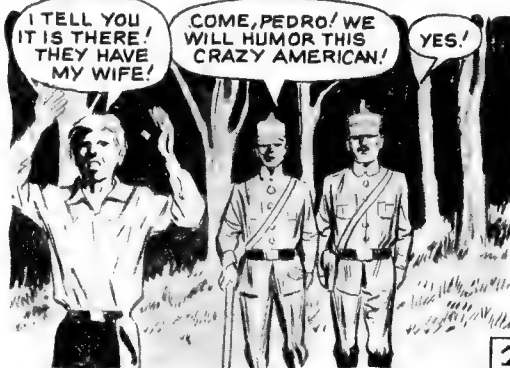
THERE IS NO OLD MONASTERY IN THESE PARTS, SEÑOR! YOU ARE DRUNK, PERHAPS?



RIGHT HERE! HUH! I DON'T UNDERSTAND! THERE WAS AN OLD MONASTERY HERE! MY WIFE -

WE UNDERSTAND, SEÑOR! NOW YOU MUST COME WITH US!

MAD, MOST CERTAINLY! I WONDER IF HE REALLY HAD A WIFE?



I TELL YOU IT IS THERE! THEY HAVE MY WIFE!

COME, PEDRO! WE WILL HUMOR THIS CRAZY AMERICAN!

YES!

THE NEXT DAY IN A SPANISH PRISON...



LET ME GO! MY WIFE - CYNTHIA! I TELL YOU - HA-HA-HA - WON'T ANYONE BELIEVE ME?

PERHAPS THE JUDGE WILL BELIEVE YOU, SEÑOR!

YOU WILL HAVE GOOD TREATMENT, AMERICAN!



IMBECILE JAILORS! TO LEAVE THIS MURDERER HIS BELT!

PERHAPS IT IS BEST! HE KILLS HIS WIFE, WE FIND HER POOR BODY FULL OF WOUNDS! HE KILLS HIMSELF WHEN HIS FOOLISH STORY FAILS! POOF - IT IS DONE! CUT HIM DOWN!

MONSTER IN CLOTH!



IT ALL STARTED WHEN PROF. JOHN WILSON, EMINENT ARCHEOLOGIST, WENT CRAZY WITH FEAR AND TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE...

THAT -- THAT MONSTER KA IS COMING AFTER ME! I...I WON'T LET IT KILL ME... EVEN IF I HAVE TO KILL MYSELF!

CALM DOWN! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT! WALTER...YOU NEED A SEDATIVE!

NO! STOP! STOP!
...I-I'LL BE HELPLESS NOW! THE CURSE WILL BE MY DOOM!
STOP!... PLEASE!

THIS WILL QUIET YOUR NERVES WILSON!
...AH, EASY DOES IT!
REST MY FRIEND!

THAT BEAST WILL FIND ME! FIRST IT WAS COREY... THEN NIGEL... THEN IT WAS ANDERSON AND TALBOT... NOW ME! THE CURSE... OHHH...

HE SOUNDS DELIRIOUS!

...AND IN SHOCK! I WONDER IF THE ACCIDENTS THAT KILLED HIS COLLEAGUES HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT?...

THE DOCTORS HAD REASON FOR PUZZLEMENT. PROF. WILSON WAS IN CHARGE OF THE EXPEDITION THAT UNCOVERED THE TOMB OF KA, PHAROAH OF EGYPT AND WAS THE ONLY ONE ALIVE WHILE THE OTHERS DIED UNDER STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES. LATER THAT NIGHT OUTSIDE WILSON'S ROOM...

THE THING SMASHES THE DOOR TO WILSON'S ROOM.

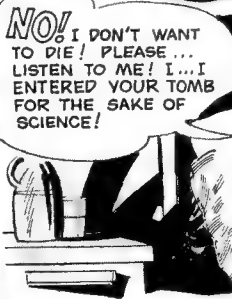
...I...HAVE...COME FOR...YOU! DEFILER OF MY...TOMB!

AAAARRGH!
CRACK!

CRASH!

NO! I DON'T WANT TO DIE! PLEASE... LISTEN TO ME! I...I ENTERED YOUR TOMB FOR THE SAKE OF SCIENCE!

YOU CANNOT... ESCAPE!
...THE CURSE IS LAW!





...YOU ... MUST
STAY WITH ...
ME... AS THE
... CURSE ...
DEMANDS!

EEEEEEYYAAAHH!

CRASH!

TINK!

TINK!

THE MONSTER AND
ITS PREY ESCAPE IN
THE NIGHT LEAVING
A PUZZLED HOSPITAL
STAFF!



OFFICER THE THING AND PROF.
WILSON HEADED IN THE DIREC-
TION OF THE SCIENCE MUSEUM!

THANKS
DOC! THIS
IS AN ALERT
SEND
UNITS TO
THE SCIENCE
MUSEUM!

AND WITHIN MINUTES

PROF. WILSON
MENTIONED SOME-
THING ABOUT A
CURSE ... THAT WHO-
EVER ENTERS
KAS TOMB,
DIES BY THE
HAND OF KA ...
BUT ... BUT
ITS PREPOSTER-
OUS!

MR. PARKINS
WE'RE
TAKING A
LOOK AT
THIS
EGYPTIAN
ROOM!

W-WHAT
WAS
THAT?

I CAN GUES
GUESS
COME ON
HURRY!!



AAAAEEEEEEAAAAYYAAHHH!

THERE! THERE'S
PROF. WILSON! HE'S
BEEN PUT ON A RACK!
RACK!



CRIII..Iik!
CRIK!

AAAAARRGGHH!



GET BACK!
THAT THING IS
COMING TOWARDS
US! OPEN FIRE!!

THE NIGHTMARE CREATURE SPRANG AT THE GROUP OF DETERMINED MEN AND LIFTED ONE OF THEM HIGH IN THE AIR, ITS TERRIBLE SINEWS CRACKLING WITH UNNATURAL STRENGTH!

USE THE IBSIS! OVER THERE... QUICKLY! IT... IT'S CALLED THE WAND OF LIFE!



BUT THE MONSTER ADVANCED ON THE YOUNG DOCTOR, GIANT HANDS TIGHTENED ON HIS THROAT... SQUEEZING... SQUEEZING.

THE IBSIS! USE THE IBSIS! HOLD IT IN FRONT OF KA!

I HOPE IT WORKS!



NOW... YOU... SHALL... DIE! YOU... SHALL... KNOW THE... POWER OF... KA... WHEN YOU DEFY!

GET BACK! BACK OR I'LL FLING THIS THING IN YOUR FACE!



UGH! TAKE IT AWAY... FROM... MY... SIGHT!

I... I... CANNOT... FIGHT THE POWER OF... LIFE... THE CURSE...

...NOTHING BUT ASHES LEFT! FANTASTIC! HEY, FREE PROF. WILSON FROM THE RACK!

...I'M BEING... REDUCED... TO ASHES... TAKE... IBSIS... AWAY!



THE IBSIS WORKED! FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT I WAS DONE FOR... BETTER HIM THAN ME! AS THE SAYING GOES!



THE END

DEEP BENEATH THE
SURFACE OF THE
EARTH, HIDDEN IN
LOATHESOME PITS
AND FETID CREVICES
ARE THE CREATURES
FOR WHOM TIME
MOVES BACKWARD!
BEWARE! FOR SOME
DAY THEY WILL
CRAWL FROM THEIR
HOMES.....

THE OGRES

IT WON'T BE LONG...
SOON YOU WILL SEE
US IN THE STREETS!
SOON WE WILL BE
THE **MASTERS** OF
THE **EARTH!**

I AM
PROFESSOR
HENRY
PEYTON...
BEFORE I
LEARNED
THE TRUTH,
I WAS
SURE OF
MY IDEAS...
I
REMEMBER
HOW I
LECTURED
TO MY
CLASSES...

EVOLUTION IS THE PROCESS
OF CHANGE BY WHICH NATURE
DEVELOPS MORE AND MORE
PERFECT BEINGS!

NATURE IS ALWAYS EXPERIMENTING...
IMPROVING CERTAIN SPECIES...
DISCARDING OTHERS...



AEONS AGO, BEFORE
MAN APPEARED IN THE
WORLD, CREATURES
LIKE THESE MAY HAVE
SWARMED OVER THE
EARTH.....

BUT NATURE
ELIMINATED THEM...
ALWAYS IMPROVING
THE SPECIES...
ALWAYS MOVING
FORWARD..

ARE YOU SURE,
PROFESSOR PEYTON?
ISN'T IT
POSSIBLE FOR
EVOLUTION
TO GO
BACKWARDS?

PREPOSTEROUS! THE
WHOLE HISTORY OF
EVOLUTION PROVES
...ER... PROVES
THAT COULDN'T
HAPPEN!

AND YET...THOSE
BONES DUG UP
IN AFRICA... I
WONDER!

I RECALLED THAT
BAFFLING DISCOVERY
MADE YEARS AGO
IN AFRICA...

IT'S
INCREDIBLE! WHAT
MYSTIFIES
ME IS
THAT THESE
BONES ARE
ONLY A FEW
HUNDRED
YEARS OLD!

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT
EVOLUTION IS MOVING
BACKWARD FOR SOME
RACE LOST IN THE
PRIMITIVE JUNGLES
OF AFRICA? I... I
MUST FIND OUT!

I HAD A LEAVE COMING TO
ME AND I EMBARKED FOR
AFRICA, WHERE...

WE CAMP HERE!

THE VERY SPOT WHERE
CARRUTHERS DUG UP
THOSE BONES... I'LL
START DIGGING
TOMORROW!



I SPENT THAT DAY IN STUDY, AND WHEN I INSPECTED THE PROGRESS THE NATIVES HAD MADE IN DIGGING...

HMM... STRANGE ODOR COMING FROM THE PIT... DANK AND BITTER... WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE NATIVES...

YOU THERE! CHIEF TULA! WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

THEY RUN AWAY! SAY EVIL SPIRITS DWELL UNDERGROUND!

FOG OF DEATH RISES FROM EARTH! RUN... RUN... BEFORE IT KILLS YOU!

NONSENSE! IT'S JUST SOME KIND OF NATURAL GAS! COME BACK! COME BACK!

HMMPH... CAN'T DO MUCH ALONE... I'LL TAKE A LAST LOOK AND THEN GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE. GUESS I'LL NEED A NEW BATCH OF DIGGERS!

I LOOKED DOWN THAT PIT... AND GASPED IN SHEER HORROR... CLAMMY FINGERS OF TERROR TRICKLING DOWN MY SPINE!

THOSE CREATURES! THEY... THEY'RE LIKE THE SKELETON... ONLY COVERED WITH FLESH... ROTTING FLESH!

HORRIBLE HANDS...
HAIRY AND OOZING
WITH SLIME REACHED
OUT AND CLUTCHED
ME TIGHTLY!

AAAGH!

I WAS THROWN
INTO A CORNER,
AND OTHERS
CAME, PRODDING
ME CURIOUSLY...

THEY...THEY'RE PART HUMAN...
PART BEAST...THEY MUST HAVE
BEEN TRAPPED UNDERGROUND
---AND THE STRANGE ATMOS-
PHERE HERE HAS MADE THEM
EVOLVE BACKWARDS... INTO
GHASTLY CREATURES!

THEY CARRIED ME BELOW...TO
THE TWISTING CAVERNS THEY
INHABITED... THAT TERRIBLE
GAS...IT...IT'S CHOKING ME...
SEEPING INTO EVERY PORE
OF MY BODY!

THEY...THEY'RE GOING
TO KILL ME...EAT ME
...AS IF I WAS AN
ANIMAL!

MUST DO SOMETHING
...QUICK...A MATCH! IGNITE
THE GAS THAT'S PART
OF THE AIR THEY
BREATHE! IT MAY
BLOW UP THE WHOLE
CAVERN... BUT WHAT
HAVE I TO LOSE?

THAT SCARED THEM!
NOW IF I CAN ONLY
GET OUT WHILE
THEY'RE STILL
TERRIFIED...

I TRIED TO RUN...BUT MY PATH WAS BLOCKED BY THOUSANDS OF GROTESQUE BODIES...KNEELING IN OBEISANCE!

THAT FLAMING GAS...
THEY THINK I'M A **GOD**...
THEY...THEY **WORSHIP** ME...WON'T
LET ME GO! BUT AT LEAST THEY
WON'T **HARM** ME!

THEY WERE SLAVES TO ME AND
BOWED WHENEVER THEY SAW
ME, BUT...

NIGHT AND DAY
THEY GUARD THE ENTRANCE TO
THAT PIT...FOR FEAR I'LL LEAVE
THEM...I'M DOOMED TO SPEND
THE REST OF MY LIFE IN
THIS RANK GRAVE OF
A WORLD!

I DISCOVERED MANY FASCINATING
THINGS IN THAT DANK, ROTTING
VILLAGE... THESE VEGETABLES
THEY RAISE FOR FOOD... THEY
TOO, HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY
THE ATMOSPHERE...THEY TOO,
ARE MOVING BACK IN TIME!

YEARS AGO THOSE BEASTS
MUST HAVE BEEN OXEN...
BUT THE FETID AIR DOWN
HERE HAS CHANGED
EVERYTHING ELSE!

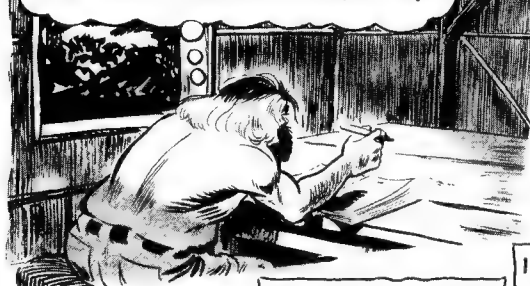
I SPENT MORE THAN A YEAR IN THAT TOMB
OF A VILLAGE, AND THEN...

MY CHANCE FOR FREEDOM AT
LAST! THOSE GUARDS...ASLEEP!
IF I CAN GET PAST WITHOUT
DISTURBING THEM...

FRESH AIR AT LAST! HOW
CLEAN IT TASTES...
HOW WONDERFUL TO
BE BACK IN MY OWN
WORLD AGAIN!

I WORKED MY WAY BACK THROUGH THE JUNGLE TO A NATIVE VILLAGE, AND STARTED AT ONCE... WRITING DOWN EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED TO ME...

IT... IT'S ONE OF THE GREATEST DISCOVERIES OF ALL TIMES! MY NAME WILL RANK AMONGST THE IMMORTALS OF SCIENCE!



I HAD BEEN WRITING FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS WHEN I NOTICED MY HAND...

THAT HAIR... THE POROUS, SLIMY FLESH... I... I'M CHANGING!!



ONE OF THEM!

I AM BECOMING...

THAT GAS I BREATHED THE WHOLE YEAR...

IT... IT'S CHANGING ME!



I MUST GO BACK... BACK TO MY PEOPLE! HOW STRANGE THAT AT ONE TIME I THOUGHT THEM MONSTERS...

EEYAAH!

...WHEN... IT... IT'S YOU... AND YOUR **RACE** WHO ARE MONSTERS! ONE DAY I WILL COME TO THE SURFACE WITH MY PEOPLE... AND **WE** WILL RULE THE WORLD! HA! HA!



THE
END 45

IN THE MURKY GLOOM OF THE DEATH HOUSE, BILL DONAHUE WAITED TO TAKE THE SLOW, AGONIZING STEPS DOWN THE LAST MILE !!

SEAT OF DOOM

BUT I TELL YOU--I'M INNOCENT!

THESE IDIOTS... HA-HA! IF ONLY THEY KNEW THAT WHAT HE SREAMS IS TRUE!

WHY WON'T ANYONE BELIEVE ME? FIND GIMPY WILSON... HE'S THE MURDERER !!

YEAH...YEAH! ALL YOU GUYS ARE INNOCENT...

YOU'RE ALL MAD!

PIPE DOWN WILLYA, DONAHUE?

TAKE IT EASY, BOY!

Wardlaw 7/92

ALONE AND FORSAKEN, BILL DONAHUE LISTENS TO THE TICK-TOCK OF THE CLOCK CHIP AWAY THE SECONDS OF HIS LIFE...

THAT CLOCK IS DRIVING ME MAD!

WH...? OH, I... I MUST'VE DOZED OFF... WARDEN -- IT ISN'T TIME...?

TAKE IT EASY, DONAHUE... YOU'VE GOT A FEW HOURS YET!

WE'VE JUST COME TO GET YOU READY...



ANY LAST REQUEST, DONAHUE?

WARDEN, LISTEN TO ME! I DIDN'T KILL THAT MAN... YOU'RE GOING TO ELECTROCUTE AN INNOCENT MAN!

THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU!



ALL SOUNDS AND VOICES ECHOED IN BILL'S SKULL! HIS BRAIN WAS FILLED WITH TERROR!

NO... NO... I'M NOT A MURDERER!

YOU'RE GOING TO FRY...

I CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU...

JOHN! YOU'VE COME FROM THE GOVERNOR! YOU... YOU TOLD HIM I'M INNOCENT?

YES, BILL... I'VE BEEN WITH THE GOVERNOR...



HE SAYS
HE CAN DO
NOTHING!

NINE O'CLOCK...
TWO MORE
HOURS TO
LIVE! ONLY
TWO MORE!

TICK TOCK
TICK TOC!

FATHER...YOU...
YOU WILL LISTEN
TO ME, WON'T
YOU?

I HAVE COME TO
COMFORT YOU,
MY SON!

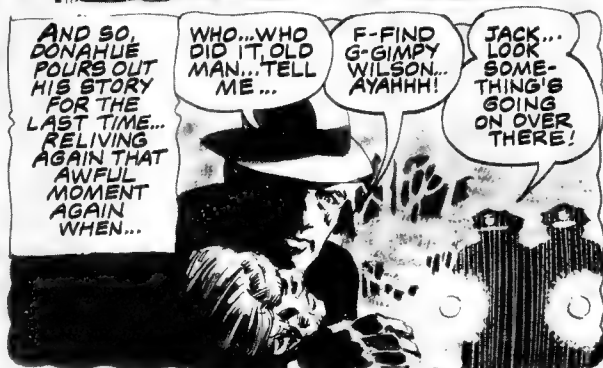


AND SO,
DONAHUE
POURS OUT
HIS STORY
FOR THE
LAST TIME...
RELIVING
AGAIN THAT
AWFUL
MOMENT
AGAIN
WHEN...

WHO...WHO
DID IT, OLD
MAN...TELL
ME...

F-FIND
G-GIMPY
WILSON...
AYAHHH!

JACK...
LOOK
SOME-
THING'S
GOING
ON OVER
THERE!



...AND WHEN THE OLD
MAN DIED, FATHER, THEY
SAID I DID IT! BUT I
FOUND HIM HALF DEAD!

HEY, SLUG...
YOU HEAR
SOMETHING?

NAW...JUST YOUR
NERVES! BILL
GETS IT TONIGHT!

BUT NO ONE EVER
HEARD OF GIMPY
WILSON, MY BOY!



SLAP... SLAP...

THE HOUR
IS HERE,
MY SON...

ALL RIGHT!
I'M READY!



**Then... THE DREADFUL WALK...THE
LAST MILE...**



DONAHUE, HAVE YOU ANY LAST WORDS?

ONLY THAT I AM INNOCENT AND I PRAY THAT THE TRUE MURDERER MEETS THE SAME FATE AS I!

DEAD SILENCE FELL AS THE WARDEN GAVE THE SIGNAL...

I--I CAN'T SEEM TO...UH... PULL THE SWITCH ALL THE WAY! S-SOMETHING COLD HOLDING MY HAND



THEN, SUDDENLY, A SOUL-SPLITTING LAUGH RANG IN THE ROOM...

HA! HA! HA!! YOU'VE KILLED HIM! AND I'M GIMPY WILSON! I HAVE COMMITTED THE PERFECT CRIME! HAHHA!

THE CHARGE... IT WASN'T ENOUGH TO KILL HIM!

THEN HE HEARD ME!! NO...KEEP HIM AWAY FROM ME... YAHH-H!

GOOD LORD! DONAHUE WAS INNOCENT!



THE TERRIFYING FIGURE OF BILL DONAHUE STALKED GIMPY LIKE AN AVENGING SPIRIT AND WRAPPED HIM IN AN ELECTRICAL EMBRACE OF DEATH...



WHAT A TERRIBLE AND STRANGE PHENOMENA... THE PARTIAL SHOCK GAVE HIM SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH FOR A FEW MOMENTS!

YES...AND DONAHUE GOT HIS FINAL WISH! THE REAL MURDERER DID MEET A DEATH AS HORRIBLE AS HIS OWN!



THE END

YOU'RE TRAPPED WITH A
HARROWING TORTURE
OF YOUR BRAIN. YOU'RE
TRAPPED WITH ONLY
ONE ROAD BACK....
WHICH UNWINDS LIKE
A COIL THROUGH THE
DARK SHADOWY PAST!

GRAVEYARD

YOU WALK A QUIET ROAD, A DEATH-LIKE ROAD....



YOUR STEADY STEPS CARRY YOU THROUGH THE
RAIN THAT FALLS IN A HEAVY, DRONING TATOO
OF WATER....



BUT SUDDENLY....A JAGGED
BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES!



YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED NEXT...

STRUCK BY
LIGHTNING!

YEAH, WE BETTER
GET HIM TO THE
HOSPITAL....FAST!



AND THEN YOU HEAR...THEN YOU SEE....

WHAT
HAPPENED...?

YOU WERE HIT BY
LIGHTNING. WE FOUND
YOU BY THE **CEME-
TERY!**

YES.
YOU'RE
LUCKY TO BE
ALIVE,
MR....BY THE
WAY, WHAT
IS YOUR
NAME?



YOU BEAT AT YOUR BRAIN...YOU SEARCH THROUGH
YOUR MIND....

WHY I'M....I'M....I
CAN'T **REMEMBER**
MY NAME! I....I
DON'T KNOW
WHO I AM!

HMMM!
AMNESIA!

PROBABLY AFTER
THAT BLOW ANY-
THING MIGHT HAVE
HAPPENED.
STRANGE HOW
HE LIVED
THROUGH
IT!

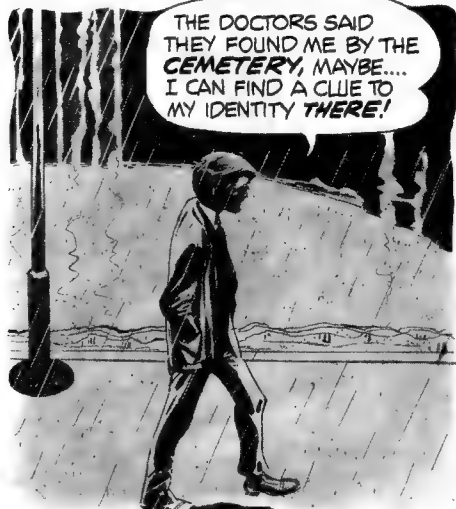


AMNESIA! SOMETHING YOU THINK ONLY OTHERS
WILL HAVE....BUT NEVER **YOURSELF!**

I'VE GOT TO **FIND OUT**
WHO I AM! AND I CAN'T
DO IT IN THIS ROOM!



THE DOCTORS SAID
THEY FOUND ME BY THE
CEMETERY, MAYBE....
I CAN FIND A CLUE TO
MY IDENTITY **THERE!**



YOU GO BACK TO THE CEMETERY. SEARCHING FOR A
CLUE THAT MIGHT MEAN REMEMBRANCE....

GOT TO FIND SOMETHING...
...ANYTHING. WAIT!
WHAT'S **THAT?**





IT'S A...**KEY!**
I...FEEL THAT
IT'S GOT
SOMETHING
TO DO WITH MY
PAST. BUT...
WHERE DOES
IT BELONG?



THEN SUDDENLY, A CRASH OF LIGHTNING, AND FOR
ONE SHORT SECOND YOU SEE IT!

A HOUSE!...THIS
KEY...COULD IT BE
POSSIBLE?

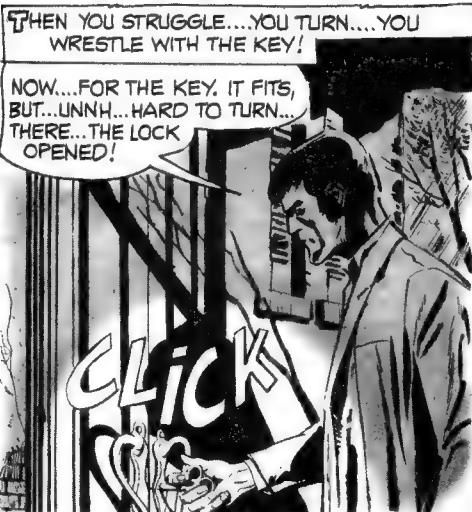
*YOU WALK FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH **HOPE!***



THAT MANSION....SO ERIE...
BUT, I'VE GOT TO GO ON...
..GOT TO FIND OUT
WHO I AM!



WHAT A
SINISTER
PLACE!



THEN YOU STRUGGLE...YOU TURN....YOU
WRESTLE WITH THE KEY!

NOW....FOR THE KEY, IT FITS,
BUT...UNNH...HARD TO TURN...
THERE...THE LOCK
OPENED!

CLICK



*YOU TUG ON THE HEAVY DOORS....AND SLOWLY THEY
OPEN!*

GOT TO...GET....INSIDE.
I FEEL I....**BELONG**
HERE!

SQUEEEAAWW

THEN, WITH FEAR-STRICKEN, NUMBING EXPECTANCY, YOU ENTER....

EVERYTHING'S SO **OLD!** WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



YOU DELVE DEEPER INTO THE AGED, FETID DILAPIDATION....AND YOU'RE UNAWARE OF A SINISTER BEING THAT WATCHES....

GAD, WHAT A PLACE! THIS STAIRCASE....SOMEONE'S HERE....



THEN SUDDENLY YOU TURN....

YOU HAVE **RETURNED!** WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?



YOUR HEART BEATS WILDLY....CHILLS ICE YOUR SPINE!

RETURNED? WHA....WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

DON'T PLAY GAMES! COME, THE OTHERS ARE WAITING!



YOU DUCK, YOU RUN....YOU'RE **FEARFUL** OF YOUR **PAST!** WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?

WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?

NOOO! RUN! GOT TO GET AWAY! THESE STAIRS....



COME BACK. DO NOT RUN!

IT'S FOLLOWING ME! GOT TO GET TO THAT DOOR... GOT TO....





MADE IT,
NOW....



YES, YOU MADE IT, DIDN'T YOU? YOU'VE COME TO
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR....

I...NO!
NOOO!

HE'S
HERE!

IT'S ABOUT
TIME!

THEY COME CLOSER....THEY LOOM ABOVE YOU....AND
YOUR QUEST FOR MEMORY IS REPLACED BY **FEAR!**



WE HAVE
BEEN
WAITING...

...FOR
YOU!
HA, HA,
HA!

KEEP
AWAY!!

THEY GRAB YOU....AND THEIR TOUCH FEELS LIKE
THE STING OF DEATH! THEY LEAD YOU TO A CHAIR...



DON'T...
DON'T...

WE WON'T HARM YOU.
WE CAN'T, WE KNOW
WHO YOU ARE!

A, HA! THEY KNOW....BUT DO YOU?



SIT
DOWN.

BUT I DON'T!
TELL ME....
WHO AM I?

STOP
JOKING.
YOU....



--DEVIL,
YOU!



NOW....I KNOW!
HA HA HA HA!

THE
END

LOTTERY OF HORROR



THEY WERE EXPLORERS OF THE EARTH'S INTERIOR, AFTER FINDING THE TASHKENTI FISSURE IN NORTHERN GOBI, THEY DESCENDED TWO THOUSAND MILES INTO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH UNTIL...

I TOLD YOU IT WAS GETTING **BRIGHTER!** LOOK... STRAIGHT AHEAD, THERE'S A **BIG OPENING** THERE, BRAD!

YOU'RE RIGHT, MANSON! I THOUGHT IT WAS ANOTHER ILLUSION... BUT IT IS **LIGHT!**

THE LAST HUNDRED YARDS TO THE OPENING WERE COVERED ON THE **DEAD RUN, AND...**

MANSON! WHAT DO YOU SEE?

NOT A **BLASTED** THING! I'M **BLINDED** BY THE **LIGHT!**



AFTER ALL HAD PLUNGED THROUGH THE OPENING INTO A BRILLIANT LIGHT...



WAITED FOR WEEKS? BUT, HOW DID YOU KNOW?

WE HAVE POWERFUL SONIC ENGINES WHICH TOLD US LONG AGO THAT YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY!

...AND WE UTILIZE PRIME ENERGY EMANATING FROM OUR BODIES TO RUN VEHICLES LIKE THIS ONE! I KNOW YOU HAVE LOTS OF QUESTIONS, BUT WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO FIRST?

BATH, SHAVE AND SLEEP!



THE LUXURY OF THEIR NEW HOME WAS OVERWHELMING...

EVERYTHING HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR YOUR COMFORT! I WILL BE BACK WHEN YOU'RE RESTED!

WE'RE GRATEFUL, TARM! I HOPE YOU WILL ALLOW US TO STUDY YOUR AMAZING CIVILIZATION!

ONCE THE EXPLORERS WERE ALONE...

WHERE IS THIS PLACE AND WHERE DID THESE PEOPLE COME FROM BRAD?

I THINK WE'RE AT THE EARTH'S CENTER! MY GUESS IS THESE PEOPLE ONCE LIVED ON THE SURFACE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO!

LOOK AT THIS... BED! SUSPENDED ON INVISIBLE LIGHT COLUMNS!

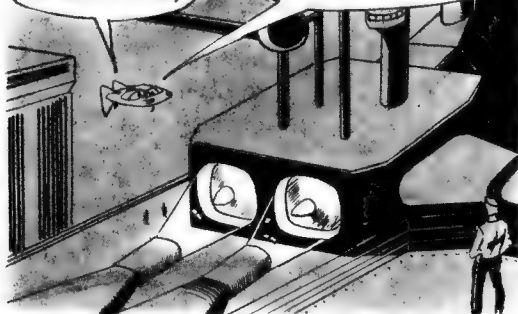
IT'S OBVIOUS THEY'RE AHEAD OF US HUNDREDS OF YEARS SCIENTIFICALLY!



**THE NEXT FEW WEEKS FULFILLED THEIR WILD-
EST DREAMS.**

AND THESE TUBES
FILTER THE AIR,
MAKING IT
STERILE! AS A
RESULT... THERE
IS **NO ILLNESS**
IN CENTRALIA!

I'VE NOTICED THE
AVERAGE LIFE SPAN
IS **TWO HUNDRED AND**
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
... ABOUT FOUR TIMES
WHAT'S NORMAL
OF EARTH!



THAT MUSEUM'S
ALMOST FINISHED
YET IT WAS ONLY
STARTED YESTER-
DAY! SEE ANY
MEN WORKING?

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO
MACHINES WERE BUILT
TO RUN **MACHINES!**
THEY DO **ALL** THE
WORK!



ALL YOUR
PUBLIC
BUILDINGS
HAVE NO
DOORS
AREN'T
YOU
AFRAID OF
THEFTS?

THERE IS **NO**
CRIME IN
CENTRALIA!
THE LAST **POLICE**
FORCE WAS
ABOLISHED
THREE HUNDRED
YEARS AGO!

**WHEN THE EARTH SCIENTISTS
HAD COMPLETED THEIR
COLLECTION OF DATA...**

WE HAVE
PHOTOGRAPHS...
STATISTICS AND
SAMPLES...
WITH HIS
EVIDENCE
NOBODY
CAN DIS-
PUTE THE
EXISTENCE
OF CEN-
TRALIA!

THERE'S
ONE
STATISTIC
WE'VE
NEARLY
FORGOTTEN
BRAD! OUR
FOOD IS
RUNNING
LOW!

WE'VE BEEN
LIVING OFF
OUR OWN
SUPPLIES
ALL THESE
WEEKS...
BUT IT'S
EMBARASS-
ING TO
ASK TARM
FOR FOOD!

WHY NOT? I'M
STARVED!
I WONDER
WHAT THEY
EAT, ANYHOW?
I'VE NEVER
SEEN ANY
SIGNS OF
FOOD
AROUND!



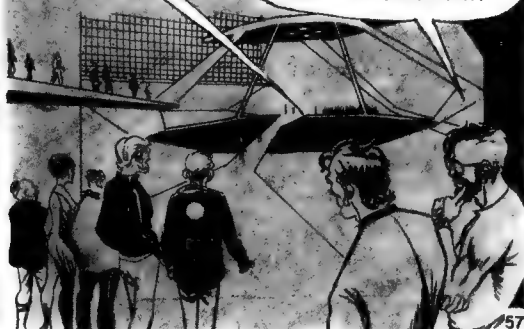
THAT'S A FACT!
I HAVEN'T **SEEN**
ANY **LIVE STOCK...**
OR... **GRAINS...**
OR **ANYTHING!**
MAYBE THEY DO
CHEMICAL
FARMING?

IMPOSSIBLE! THEY DON'T
HAVE THE WATER
SUPPLY FOR THAT OR
THE EQUIPMENT!
SYNTHETICS ARE OUT
ALSO! WE'D BETTER
FIND OUT! THIS IS
GETTING SERIOUS!

**AN HOUR LATER, AS THEY WANDERED THROUGH
THE WONDER CITY IN QUEST OF FOOD...**

WHO KNOWS...
COULD BE THEY
EAT NOTHING
AT ALL?

THERE'S TARM! PERHAPS
SHE CAN TELL US WHAT
THAT BIG CROWD IS
DOING IN THE SQUARE?
IT COULD BE A RATION
SUPPLY CENTER...



WE ARE CONDUCTING THE WEEKLY LOTTERY! IF YOU'LL JUST TAKE ONE OF THESE TICKETS!

SURE! MAYBE I'LL WIN ONE OF THOSE UNITORQUE CARS!

THE BOARD'S ALL LIT UP NOW! HOW DOES IT WORK, TARM?

WATCH THE PANEL BOARD! THE WINNING NUMBER WILL BE FLASHED IN RED!

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31	32	33	34	35	36				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30



THE LIGHTS WHIRLED ACROSS THE GIANT BOARD, UNTIL ...

THE LIGHTS ARE STOPPING! LOOK, I HOLD NUMBER TWELVE!

I PICKED A WINNER TOO! NUMBER THIRTY-ONE IS FLASHING RED!

WE'VE ALL WON! I TELL YOU IT'S THE LUCK OF THE EXPEDITION THAT'S HOLDING OUT!

THE PANEL BOARD WAS PROBABLY FIXED TO MAKE US WIN! THEY'RE JUST BEING NICE TO US!



THE NUMBERS CORRESPOND! YOU HAVE ALL WON! TARM WILL SETTLE MATTERS!

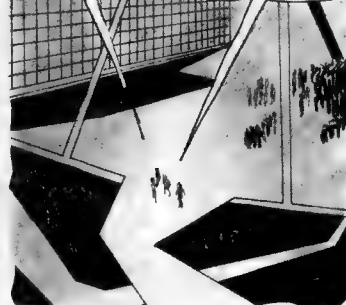
THIS WAY GENTLEMEN! FOLLOW ME PLEASE!

MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T HAVE WON THE LOTTERY! IT SEEMS UNFAIR TO THE REST OF THAT CROWD IN THE SQUARE!

I ASSURE YOU, THEY DON'T MIND, MY FRIENDS! THERE'S A LOTTERY RUN OFF EVERY HOUR TODAY!

I WONDER WHAT PRIZES WE'LL GET? I HOPE MINE IS ONE OF THOSE BEDS!

I'D LIKE AN ULTRASONIC RECORDER!

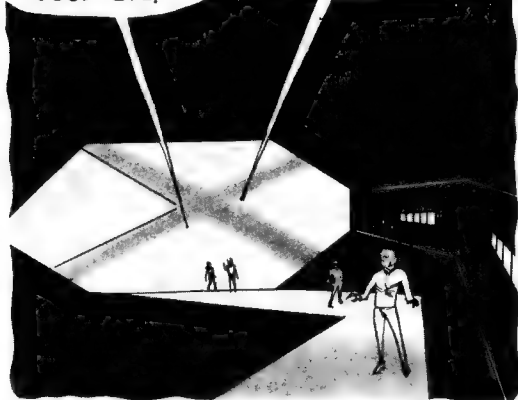


THIS **MOVING WALK** WILL TAKE YOU TO YOUR DESTINATION. NOW I MUST SAY GOOD-BYE!

SO LONG, TARM! THANKS FOR EVERYTHING! WE'LL BE SEEING YOU AROUND.

HEY, THIS SURE IS A LONG RIDE! I WONDER WHERE IT LEADS TO?

WE'LL SOON FIND OUT! THAT LOOKS LIKE A PASSAGE ENTRANCE RIGHT AHEAD!



WELL, HERE GOES! I'M THE FIRST ONE IN!

DON'T HOG THE BEST PRIZES, BRAD! LEAVE SOMETHING FOR US!



SUDDENLY, AS BRAD DISSAPEARED FROM VIEW HIS VOICE CAME BACK IN A TERRIFYING SCREAM...

WHAT THE...? THAT WAS BRAD'S VOICE!! WHAT HAPPENED, MANSON?

I-I DON'T KNOW! HE MUST HAVE FALLEN OR SOMETHING. I'LL SOON FIND OUT!



YEOW! GET ME BACK!!! STOP THE WALK! I KNOW **WHAT** THEY EAT NOW!! THE **LOTTERY** TAKES CARE OF IT!! THESE PEOPLE ARE ...

CANNIBALS! THEY... EAT... EACH OTHER!! OH... NO... NO!



GRAB YOUR PITH HELMETS, KIDDIES, WE'RE OFF ON A JUNGLE JOURNEY TO TERROR! IT'S A NO-MAN'S LAND OF HORROR AND FEAR THAT WILL KEEP YOUR TEETH ON EDGE! IT'S A DEADLY SAGA WE CALL....

THE WINGED MONSTERS



I'VE HAD ENOUGH, BURNS! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! YOU MUST DIE!

STOP HIM! HE'S GONE CRAZY!

OUR STORY OPENS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN AN OFFICE OF THE PENTAGON!

IT MUST BE SOMEPLACE COMPLETELY FORSAKEN! SECRECY IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE!

I THINK I KNOW JUST THE SPOT, GENERAL! AN UNEXPLORED REGION OF THE AMAZON JUNGLE... HUNDREDS OF MILES FROM CIVILIZATION!

THE TEMPERATURE IN THIS AREA IS SO HOT THAT NO MAN HAS EVER GONE BEYOND THIS POINT! WITH THE PROPER EQUIPMENT WE COULD STAND THE HEAT, AND BE ISOLATED!

SOUNDS FINE, COLONEL! YOU WILL ORGANIZE THE EXPEDITION!



DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS COLONEL ROBERT LADD ASSEMBLES MEN FOR HIS MISSION

WE NEED YOU, PROFESSOR TALBOT! WITHOUT A ZOOLOGIST, THE PROJECT IS SUNK!

THIS IS STRICTLY A VOLUNTARY MISSION, LT. BURNS... AND I WARN YOU, A DANGEROUS ONE!

YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU, PRIVATE LEEDS!

A MONTH LATER PROJECT ZKV IS READY TO BEGIN AN ARMY TRANSPORT FLIES 4 MEN TO A BARREN SPOT IN SOUTH AMERICA

WE'RE OUT OF THE STATES NOW, COLONEL... HOW ABOUT GIVING US THE LOWDOWN ON WHAT'S UP!

SORRY, BURNS, BUT UNTIL WE REACH OUR FINAL DESTINATION, I'M BOUND TO SECRET.



ALL THE MEN KNOW IS THAT THEY'LL BE GONE FOR TWO YEARS... THEIR PLANE LANDS 2 HRS. LATER...

WELL, SO LONG TO CIVILIZATION!

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME, GENTLEMEN!



THAT NIGHT THE MEN SET UP THEIR FIRST CAMP...

HEY, PROF. WATCHA DOING? CATCHING BUGS?

NO, LIEUT. NOT BUGS... FLIES! MY SPECIALTY IS FLIES! YOU'D BE AMAZED AT HOW MANY KINDS THERE ARE!



FLIES? OH, SWELL, AN' I HATE 'EM! USED TO PULL 'EM APART WHEN I WAS A KID! NASTY PESTS!

NOT ALL FLIES ARE PESTS! SOME SERVE VERY USEFUL FUNCTIONS!



WELL, DON'T PLAN ON CATCHING ANY IN HERE! I'M PUTTIN' UP FLY PAPER!

I IMAGINE THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF OTHERS OUTSIDE!



ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING THE SMALL GROUP MAKES ITS WAY INTO THE JUNGLE...

HOW LONG WILL WE BE ABLE TO USE THE JEEP, COLONEL?

JUST FOR ABOUT 100 MILES, PROFESSOR... THEN THE JUNGLE GETS TOO THICK FOR ANYTHING BUT MACHETES AND HUMAN FEET!

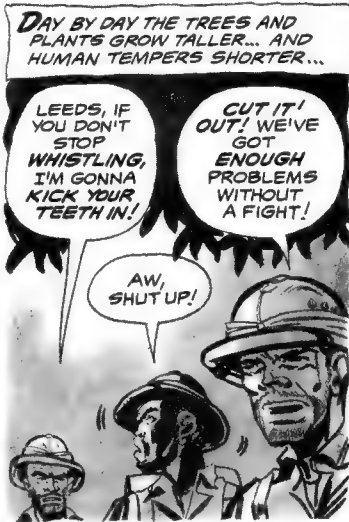




TRY TO IGNORE THEM, BURNS! COLONEL, HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING DIFFERENT IN THE PAST FEW HOURS?



THEY ARE! BIGGER!



LEEDS, IF YOU DON'T STOP WHISTLING, I'M GONNA KICK YOUR TEETH IN!

CUT IT! OUT! WE'VE GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS WITHOUT A FIGHT!

AW, SHUT UP!

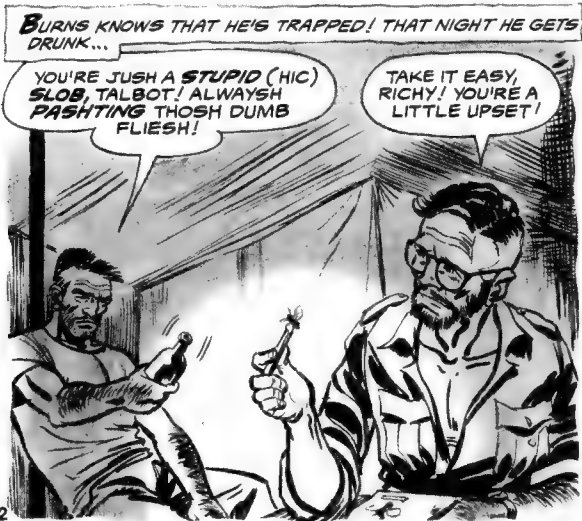


I'VE HAD ALL I CAN TAKE, COLONEL! I QUIT! I WANNA GO BACK!

NOW, CALM DOWN, LIEUT! YOU OFFERED THE ARMY YOUR SERVICES FOR PATRIOTIC REASONS! YOU DON'T MEAN...



THAT'S ENOUGH, BURNS! IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE... GO AHEAD! BUT YOU GO ALONE!



YOU'RE JUSH A STUPID (HIC) SLOB, TALBOT! ALWAYS PASHING THOSH DUMB FLIESH!

TAKE IT EASY, RICHY! YOU'RE A LITTLE UPSET!



YOU DRUNKEN FOOL... YOU CAN'T...

PROFESSOR HAROLD TALBOT ATTEMPTS TO PROTECT HIS SPECIMENS, AND...

BEAT IT, GRANDPA, OR YOU'RE GONNA GET HURT!

UGHH!

SHE LOVESH ME, SHE LOVESH ME NOT...

WHAT ON EARTH... BURNS!

WELL, WELL, IF IT (HIC) ISN'T THE COLONEL! HOWDY,

I'M WARNING YOU, BURNS, I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO DISRUPT THIS PROJECT! YOU'LL OBEY ORDERS...OR ELSE!

PROJECT ZKV CONTINUES BUT NOW RICHY BURNS CONSTANTLY TORTURES AND KILLS INSECTS JUST TO INFURIATE TALBOT...

HEY, PROF, LOOK... DEE, DUM, DUM, POOR BUTTERFLY, DEE DUM...

TRY TO IGNORE HIM PROFESSOR!

LOOK AT THOSE TREES! THEY MAKE CALIFORNIA'S REDWOODS LOOK LIKE ACORNS!

THEY'LL GET EVEN BIGGER, COLONEL, EVERYTHING WILL, THE INTENSE HEAT DOES IT!

THESE VINES ARE SO STRONG THAT THEY'RE CRACKING MY MACHETE!

LEEDS, WITHIN A FEW DAYS WE'LL BE FAR ENOUGH TO MAKE A PERMANENT CAMP!

IT'S LATER THE COLONEL GIVES THE ORDER TO MAKE A CLEARING FOR THE ENEMY CAMP...

I'LL CONTACT H.Q. AND HAVE A HELICOPTER DROP OFF OUR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT!



EVERYTHING'S SO BIG OUT HERE, I FEEL LIKE A DWARF!



KEEP A WATCH FOR ANIMALS... THEY'LL BE TWICE AS DEADLY!

THE MEN RETIRE EARLY BUT RICHY BURNS IS AWAKENED FROM A SOUND SLEEP A SHORT TIME LATER...

WH...OH, NO...NO! HELLLL PPPP!



THE LIEUTENANT IS PARALYZED WITH FEAR...

FOR GOD'S SAKE BURNS, HOLD STILL! I DON'T WANT TO BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF TOO!

HURRY UP, IT'S COMING FOR ME!



TALBOT'S AIM IS TRUE... AND DEADLY!

BLAM!



THIS LAST TERROR OF THE SNAKE IS TOO MUCH FOR BURNS... HE IS A MAN GONE BERSERK...

IT'S ALL OVER, BURNS! COME BACK, IT'S OKAY!

GET AWAY FROM ME! I AIN'T STAYING HERE... I'M GETTING OUT WHILE I'M STILL ALIVE!



DON'T BE A FOOL, BURNS, YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE OUT THERE...

I'M TELLING YOU FOR THE LAST TIME... KEEP AWAY FROM ME! KEEP AWAY!



COLONEL LADD AND PRIVATE LEEDS WATCH THEIR MOUTHS OPEN WITH HORROR AS THE CRAZED BURNS LIFTS HIS RIFLE AND LEVELS IT AT TALBOT...

WHILE LEEDS AND LADD RUSH TO THE INJURED MAN, BURNS ESCAPES INTO THE JUNGLE...



RICHY BURNS RUNS BLINDLY, HIS MIND INTENT UPON... ESCAPE! THEN LATER...

HE RUNS ALL THAT NIGHT... AND THE NEXT DAY...

HE CONTINUES HIS WILD TREK FOR DAYS... NOT REALIZING HE'S GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION...



BUT AS BURNS STARTS TO SHOVE ON...



ONLY WHEN BURNS LOOKS UPWARD DOES HE SEE THE MOST PUZZLING THING OF ALL... THE "TREE" IS NOT A TREE...



THIS THING IS JUST HANGING DOWN... IT'S TIED TO THAT BRANCH! WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS IT?

BURNS CONTINUES HIS STRUGGLES TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THE "THING" IN VAIN... HE GROWS WEAKER, MORE TERROR-STRICKEN...



I-IF I CAN'T GET LOOSE... I'M GONNA DIE... DIE LIKE... WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

THE NOISE GETS LOUDER AND LOUDER UNTIL...

OH, NO... I-I'M GOING CRAZY... FLIES, TWICE THE SIZE OF A MAN!

HYPTA JIGBTE LUMDA FIVT (THE HUMAN PAPER HAS CAUGHT A MAN)



THEIR WIREY LEGS ENCLOSE ON THE VICTIM...

GPIOTA SWIVBA NBCEE (LET'S GET HIM)



LOPJUA FGUMS HUP LSMFT, JI (SHE LOVES ME, SHE LOVES ME NOT!)

DEE DEE DUM... POOR HUMANFLY! DEE DUM DEE DUM!



TELL ME, COLONEL... WHAT WAS IT... OUR MISSION?

WE WERE GOING TO TEST A NEW ATOMIC INSECTICIDE! THE MOST POWERFUL EVER KNOWN TO MAN! IF SUCCESSFUL, WE COULD HAVE KILLED EVERY PEST ON THIS CONTINENT!

AND BACK IN CAMP OF PROJECT ZXV, PROF TALBOT IS DYING...



The End



